

# **County of San Mateo**

Inter-Departmental Correspondence

Department: COUNTY MANAGER

Board Meeting Date: 11/6/2018

Special Notice / Hearing: None Vote Required: Majority

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Michael Callagy, County Manager

**Subject:** County Manager's Report #19 of 2018

## RECOMMENDATION:

Accept this informational report.

#### BACKGROUND:

This report will provide you with updates on a variety of County initiatives focusing on Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Community Services and Performance, in addition to reports on legislation and issues that require your action. We also will keep you and the public informed about new services, upcoming events and general updates.

### DISCUSSION:

#### Health and Human Services

#### Health insurance open enrollment underway

The open enrollment period for 2019 Covered California health coverage kicked off on Oct. 15, 2018. To avoid any gaps in coverage, San Mateo County residents must enroll by Dec. 15, 2018 so coverage will begin on January 1, 2019. The deadline to renew or enroll in Covered California health insurance is January 15, 2019. The County aims to make the enrollment process as simple as possible for residents - whether they are completing the process online on their own, or with the help of an enrollment counselor by phone or in-person. County Health supports a "no-wrong-door" approach with enrollment counselors available to talk through the best cost and coverage with each plan and find the right one for each person and family. A list of enrollment locations and times and the languages spoken at each center is available at <a href="http://www.smcgov.org/healthcoverage">www.smcgov.org/healthcoverage</a> Local in-person enrollment assistance is available by calling (650) 616-2002 or 1 (800) 223-8383. San Mateo County residents can also enroll directly through Covered California's website: <a href="http://www.coveredCA.com</a> <a href="http://www.coveredCA.com</a>. Community Services

### Sustainability wins grant for electric vehicle replacement toolkit

The County's Office of Sustainability received one of six grants from Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) to develop a clean fuel toolkit to help local governments replace traditional gas-powered fleets with

electric vehicles. The *Roadmap for Municipal Green Fleets* was one of two awardees of the six focused on promoting the use of electric vehicles. PCE, the county's official electricity provider, awarded the Community Pilot Program grants of up to \$75,000 to innovative local projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, supporting low-income customers and advancing electric transportation.

# Performance

# County maintains outstanding credit ratings

The County of San Mateo has maintained its stellar bond ratings, reflecting its robust tax base, vibrant local economy, moderate debt and fiscal responsibility. Moody's Investor Services and S&P Global Ratings affirmed the County's Aaa and AAA issuer ratings, respectively. Similarly, Moody's and S&P assigned Aa1 and AA+ lease ratings to the County's \$205.1 million 2018 Series A lease revenue bonds (Capital Projects) and \$52.7 million 2019 Series A lease revenue bonds (Forward Refunding). These represent the highest possible lease ratings for a California issuer. These ratings along with a stable outlook designation reflect strong leadership and conservative fiscal policies and mean that the rating agencies expect that the County's tax base will continue to grow, pension and debt burdens will remain manageable, and the County will maintain a healthy and stable financial position. The high ratings enable the County to borrow at the lowest possible interest rates when it finances its Capital Master Pan projects.

# Chinese delegation visits County budget team

Speaking of the County's finances, Budget Director Robert Manchia recently welcomed a delegation from China's Jiangsu Provincial Fiscal Office. The 21-person delegation asked to meet with the County's budget team to learn more about our budgeting practices after reading of its numerous Distinguished Budget Presentation awards. Posing questions through a translator, the group was especially interested in how the County receives funds from different state and local sources and how those are allocated for health and education.

## <u>Measure K</u>

## Trades Introduction Program helps build futures

Know anyone who may be interested in a rewarding career in the building and construction trades? The Trades Introduction Program - which offers participants the chance to explore a wide variety of trades over the course of several months - is the place to start. Information about the five-month program will be offered Jan. 12, 2019, during a mandatory orientation at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Union Hall, 1701 Leslie St., San Mateo. The Trades Introduction Program is offered by the San Mateo County Union Community Alliance and local apprenticeship programs with financial support from Measure K, the countywide half-cent sales extension for local needs.